

## MINUTES

### **Farmland Protection Program Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 721 Foster Street Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 09 (Farmland Advisory Board)    Date: October 14, 2009

#### **Advisory Board Present:**

Kathryn Spann- Soil & Water Representative/Chair  
Neil Frank- At Large  
Douglas Daye- Flat River VAD  
Gus Gray- Cape Fear VAD  
Bo Glenn- Open Space & Trails Representative  
Becky Heron- County Commissioner  
Aileen Glasgow- Business Representative  
John Monroe- At Large  
Will Wilson- At Large

#### **Others Present:**

Eddie Culberson- Soil & Water  
Lisa Marochak- Soil & Water  
Jennifer Brooks- Soil & Water  
Lynwood Faison- Soil & Water  
Jane Korest- Open Space Manager  
Wendy Seddon- Open Space & Real-estate  
Michelle Wallace- Cooperative Extension  
Richard Morgart –Tax office

*The regular monthly meeting of the Farmland Protection Advisory Board was held on Wednesday October 14, 2009, and called to order at 8:06 am by the chair. The meeting was held at the Soil and Water office, the chairman and vice chairman being present.*

- 1. Minutes** – A draft copy of September 2009 minutes was sent to members prior to this meeting. Jane Korest pointed out a correction that needs to be made to the minutes in section 5. A motion was made by Neil Frank to approve the minutes with the 1 correction. Gus Gray seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Financial Report-** No changes since last board meeting.
- 3. Membership Update**–Aileen Glasgow turned in her resignation letter to the board effective today. Kathryn Spann reported that Will Wilson is a landowner who is interested in joining the Farmland Advisory Board. Kathryn Spann also reported that John Monroe, a landowner and business owner of Architectural Trees, is also interested in joining the Farmland Advisory Board. Will Wilson and John Monroe each spoke to the board about what they do and why they are interested in joining the board. At 8:42am a motion was made by Bo Glenn to go into executive session. Becky Heron seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. At 8:50am the board came out of executive session. A motion was made by Neil Frank to appoint Will Wilson and John Monroe as At Large members of the Farmland Advisory Board. Becky Heron seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Spann asked staff and Board members to bring interested applicants to the next board meeting. Lisa Marochak reported that she will send a list of the open positions that we currently have vacant to the BOCC staff so they can advertise them. The BOCC sends out the list of vacant board members quarterly.
- 4. Farmland Plan update-** Jennifer Brooks gave an update on the Farmland Plan and reported that a sub-committee meeting has been set for October 29<sup>th</sup> 1pm-4pm so the board & staff can process and see how the comments from the public and various advisory councils affect the plan. Kathryn Spann passed out a copy of the Farmland Plan to the Farmland Board and staff present at the meeting. The Board and staff went over the plan and made changes or corrections as needed. Jennifer Brooks gave an update on

the boards that the plan has been presented to already. Brooks also gave dates and times of the remaining boards the plan will be presented to and invited all to attend.

- 5. Easement Projects Status Update** – Jane Korest reported that on September 25<sup>th</sup> they closed on 842 acres of the Little Mountain Farm. They still have 79 acres for CWMTF that they are working on.

The FRPP staff has approved the Appraisal after the 2<sup>nd</sup> round on the Roger Tilley easement. The last part of the Roger Tilley easement should close over the next 6 to 8 weeks. Jane Korest reported that on the Van Ellis and Coates easements the next step is to get the appraisals and surveys done. This fall the Caywood Farm will get revisions done to draft surveys. An easement ranking subcommittee meeting was scheduled for November 3 at 8am.

- 6. Report from Assessor's Office on proposal for farm equipment property tax:**

Richard Morgart with the Tax office gave an update on the amount of tax the county received last year on Farm Equipment. Richard reported that the total value of farm equipment listed for 2009 is \$ 796,768 and the total tax amount is \$ 6,122.91.

Morgart reported that any change concerning such taxes would have to come from State legislation not the county.

- 7. Plan a Breakfast Series, livestock agent-** Tabled until next meeting so the Director of Cooperative Extension can join us.

- 8. Set Next Meeting Date** – Lisa Marochak will email possible dates for the next board meeting this week.

- 9. Adjourn** – With no further discussion or business, Chairman Kathryn Spann adjourned the meeting at 10:36 am.

*Kathryn Spann*

Chairman

*Neil Frank*

Vice Chairman